



Arboricultural Impact Assessment for proposed development at:

St Thomas a Becket Warblington Hampshire

On behalf of:

Mrs Simon Goddard
The Goddard Partnership
The Old Fire Station
Upper Basingwell Street
Bishops Waltham, Hampshire
SO32 1PF

Prepared by:

Helen Brown Treescapes
MSc For; BSc (Hons); TechCert (AA); TechArborA

Report Reference: HBD2107IAMS

Report Date: 6th April 2021

Introduction

In accordance with your instructions, I visited St Thomas a Beckett Church on 22nd March 2021, and collected and prepared tree information relevant to the proposed development to the standard normally required by the Local Planning Authority in support of a planning application. The weather was bright and sunny with good visibility. This report is effectively an Arboricultural Method Statement (MS) as recommended in paragraph 5.4 of BS 5837:2012 *Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – Recommendations*. The Method Statement is intended to ensure the trees are appropriately protected during the development phase and in perpetuity. This document is therefore written as a part of the formal submissions to the Local Planning Authority in support of the planning application.

1.0 Caveat: It is not practicable or reasonable to take into account the potential effects of extreme weather, vandalism or accident. Helen Brown Treescapes cannot therefore accept any liability in connection with these factors. This report is intended to highlight the potential impact of the proposals on the tree population on site and is not intended to provide a risk assessment of the trees in question.

1.1 Methodology: Only those trees which were considered to be significant and within influencing distance of the proposed footprint were surveyed. All measurements were estimated, with the exception of trunk diameter which was measured with a diameter tape. The trees were surveyed from the ground that is, no aerial investigation took place and each branch was not looked at in detail. Tree structure and vitality was considered 'normal' if it was found to be typical of the age and species with the assumption that the tree would only fail in adverse weather conditions which cannot be accounted for. Defects such as fruiting bodies and structural weaknesses were only noted where they were observed. Further details may be found at Appendix 1.

2.0 Trees

2.1 Formal tree controls: The local planning authority has not been approached to ascertain whether any of the trees on site are protected by a tree preservation order or are in a conservation area. No tree work should commence on site without running such checks as there is a financial penalty for working on protected trees without consent.

2.2 Site description and Trees of interest: This site is situated in a rural area and is surrounded by low density housing and agricultural land. There are numerous mature trees growing within the curtilage of the church yard which are predominantly yew - and a maple growing close to the church yard entrance (shown as T1 on the attached plan). There is a group of mixed deciduous shrubs (shown as G1) in the northern corner of the church yard, which are not

arboriculturally significant but do provide a screen for the existing oil tank. The proposed shed is located a few metres to the north of G1. The trees within the development area and church yard are generally in good condition. Further details are available at Appendix 1 and a plan of the site showing the tree locations at Appendix 2.

- 2.3 **The Proposal:** The proposal is to erect a free standing timber shed which will accommodate a WC to serve the church and will be located in the northern corner of the churchyard. The proposed layout is shown on the 'Proposed Site Plan' reference 927/150 revision P3 dated September 2017 at a scale of 1:100 at A3. This plan is annotated to show the trees within influencing distance of the proposal and is attached as Plan HB1.

3.0 Issues relevant to the trees and Protective measures

- 3.1 **Building construction in relation to tree roots:** The root protection areas (RPAs) of the trees within influencing distance of the proposed structure (shown on plan HB1) has been taken into consideration and avoided such that neither the crown or rooting system will be damaged during the implementation phase.
- 3.2 **Protective fencing:** Protective fencing will be erected prior to the commencement of any development activity and will be retained in the positions shown on the annotated site layout plan HB1 until the completion of development. The location of the fencing is shown on the plan by a broken red line and encompasses the root protection area or canopy spread, whichever is the greater, of the retained trees. The fencing will be to the BS 5837:2012 '*Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – recommendations*' (section 6.2) i.e. preformed galvanised steel mesh panels ('Heras' or similar) facings on a driven braced scaffold pole framework. It will be retained at the locations shown until construction is completed. It may be moved or removed only with notice to and consent from the local planning authority.
- 3.3 **Special surfacing:** A section of the proposed footpath is located within the RPA of T1. In this area, excavations should be by hand to avoid causing damage to roots by heavy machinery and to ensure that, should roots be exposed, they are seen and appropriately managed. Normally, a load bearing supportive structure such as cell web would be laid but in this case, the footpath leading to the new shed will be for pedestrian access only and is not expected to support a high footfall. For this reason, I think cell web would be unduly onerous here and would require either digging or raising soil levels within the RPA of T1: Instead it is proposed that a stone flag surface will be individually bedded on thick sand and cement bedding mix over a well compacted sub base of scalpings and a teram lining which will be flush with surrounding grass.

- 3.4 **Storage and handling of materials:** This site has sufficient space for materials to be stored and handled in a bunded area outside the tree root protection area. Also, there shall be no fires within 10m of the canopy of any retained tree, and no storage or mixing of harmful materials e.g. DERV fuel or concrete within 10m of the trunk of the retained tree. The mixing area will be bunded with heavy duty plastic secured in place with scaffold boards to ensure any run-off does not percolate into the tree's rooting system.
- 3.5 **Surface drains, soakaways and services:** RPAs will be avoided in the drainage design however, in the unlikely event that existing cables need to be unearthed within an RPA, the method for doing so will accord with the recommendations in the NJUG Publication: Volume 4: Issue 2: 16/11/2007: *Guidelines for the planning, installation and maintenance of utility apparatus in proximity to trees*. Trenches will be dug by hand and any roots over 2.5cm in diameter will be retained undamaged. Smaller roots may be cut back to the proximal face with a clean, sharp pair of secateurs. The trench backfill around the roots shall be a granular material that can be compacted to the point where it can bear the new surfacing without subsiding but without abrasion of tree roots and without raising the soil bulk density to the point where root growth cannot take place. Should it be necessary, this operation will be overseen by the project arboriculturist.
- 3.6 **Tree removal and planting:** In addition to the trees already removed, it may be necessary to remove a further Lawsons Cypress as indicated on plan HB1. This is a low quality tree and, I am informed, consent for its removal has already been granted. These trees will be replaced with a native hedge comprising hawthorn, hazel, crab apple, blackthorn, field maple and dog rose.
- 4.0 **Conclusions:** This document is intended to provide protocol for the protection of the trees within influencing distance of the proposed shed and adjoining footpath. Provided the recommendations are followed, the trees should not be adversely affected by the proposal. The removal of the conifer trees adjacent to the new shed will be redressed and enhanced by planting native species which will act as a screen, windbreak and provide shelter and fodder for local wildlife.

Please call me if you would like to discuss any of these points further.

Yours sincerely



Helen Brown
MSc For. Tech Cert Arb

APPENDIX 1
Tree Schedule and Explanatory Notes

Tree (T) number	Species	Height (m)	Trunk Diameter (cm)	Crown spread (m) N, E,S,W	Crown height above ground (m)	Life stage	General observations	BS 5837 cat	Root protection area (m)
T1	Field maple	12	71	5,5,5,5	2	Mature	Good form and vitality	A	8.4
T2	Western red cedar	9	35	3,3,3,3	2	Mature	Normal forma and vitality for species	C	3.8
G1	Cotoneaster, elder, Pittosporum, Berberis thunbergii	4	26 (max)	2,2,2,2	0	Mature	Normal for species, not arboriculturally significant Provides an effective screen to conceal existing oi tank	C	4.8

APPENDIX 1

Tree Schedule and Explanatory Notes

Abbreviations:

G	: Group
m	: Metre
>	: Greater than
<	: Less than

- **Species:** Species identification is based on visual observations:

Common name	Latin
Crab apple	<i>Malus sylvestris</i>
Dog rose	<i>Rosa canina</i>
Elder	<i>Corylus avellana</i>
Field maple	<i>Acer campestre</i>
Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>
Hazel	<i>Corylus avellana</i>
Western red cedar	<i>Thuja plicata</i>

- **Height:** Height is estimated to the nearest metre.
- **Trunk diameter:** Trunk diameter for accessible trees has been measured with a diameter tape and recorded in centimetres.
- **Crown spread:** Crown spread for trees within the site is estimated at the four cardinal compass points. The distances given as appropriate correspond to crown spreads to the four cardinal compass points as shown in the grid below:

N	E
W	S

- **Crown height above ground:** The height of the crown clearance above the ground over the site is estimated to the nearest 0.5m. 'Minor branches' refers to those branches with a diameter of 70mm or less and 'major' refers to those with a diameter in excess of 70mm.
- **Life stage:** The life stage categories correspond to the classes given in BS 5837:2012, which are Young (Y), Semi-mature (SM), Early Mature (EM), Mature (M) and Over-mature (OM). There are no veteran trees included in the schedule.
- **Estimated contribution in years:** <10, >10, >20, >40, as advised in BS 5837:2012.
- **General observations:** These comment on the health and physiological and structural condition of the tree, with management recommendations where appropriate.
- **BS 5837 category:** As advised in BS 5837:2012. This grading is based on the amenity value of the tree and also the estimated remaining contribution in years i.e. A - more than 40; B - 20-40; C - 10-20; U - less than 10 and. Trees of and A and B grades are considered to be worthy of retention while those of a C grade are deemed replaceable. U grade trees are of poor quality with limited value in arboricultural terms.
- **Root protection area:** The area of root protection should be equivalent to the area of a circle centred on the tree with a radius of least 12 times the trunk diameter. This column gives the radius of such a circle; the distance may not be the same as the distance for protective fencing.

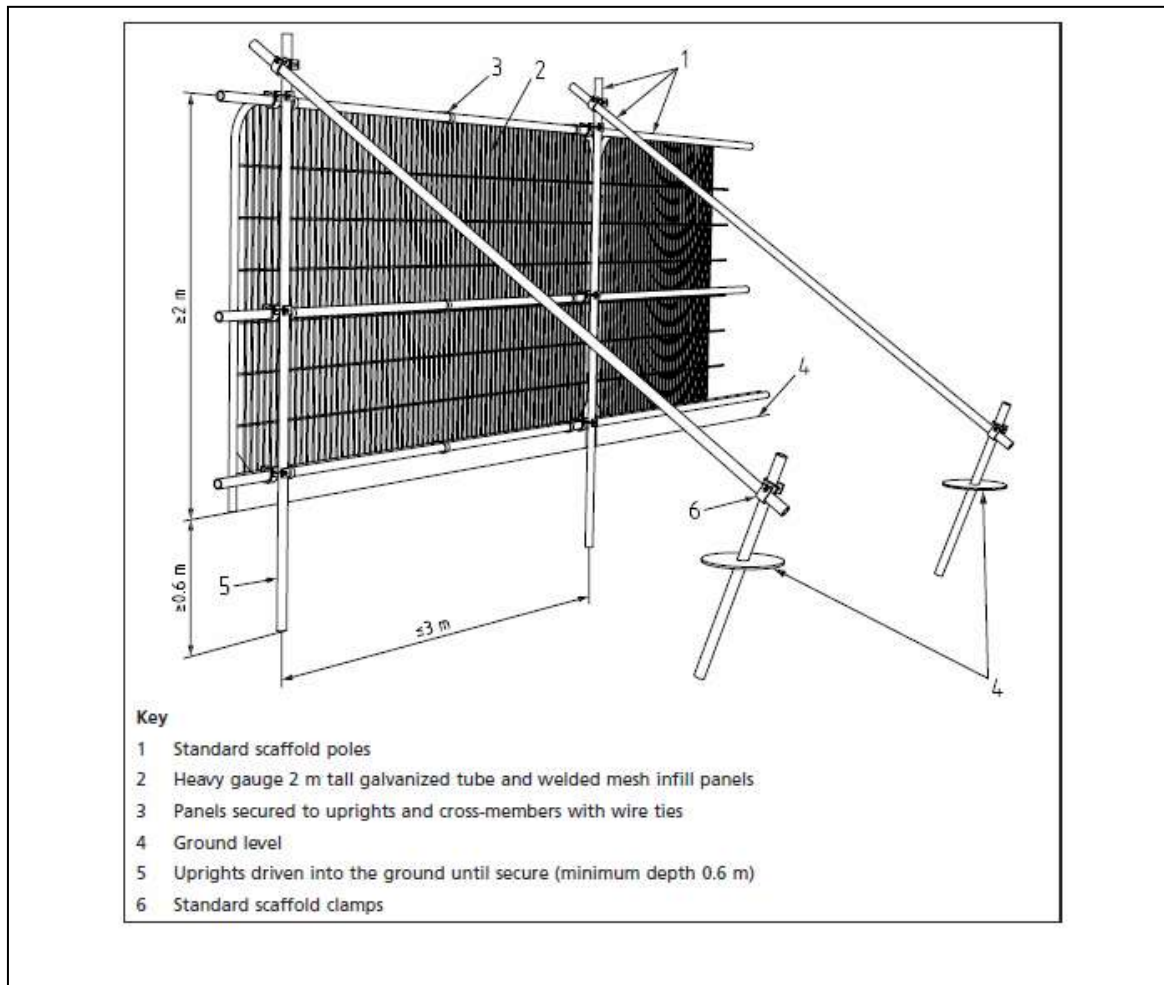
APPENDIX 2

Protective Fencing

Protective fencing should be erected before any construction commences on site. It should also be in position to protect important trees prior to demolition.

Protective fencing should stay in position until all construction activity has finished.

Fencing should be established at the minimum distance set out in British Standard 5837:2012 '*Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction - Recommendations*'. Excavations should not encroach into the fence position and it is appropriate to keep at least 0.5m between the fence and any changes in level.

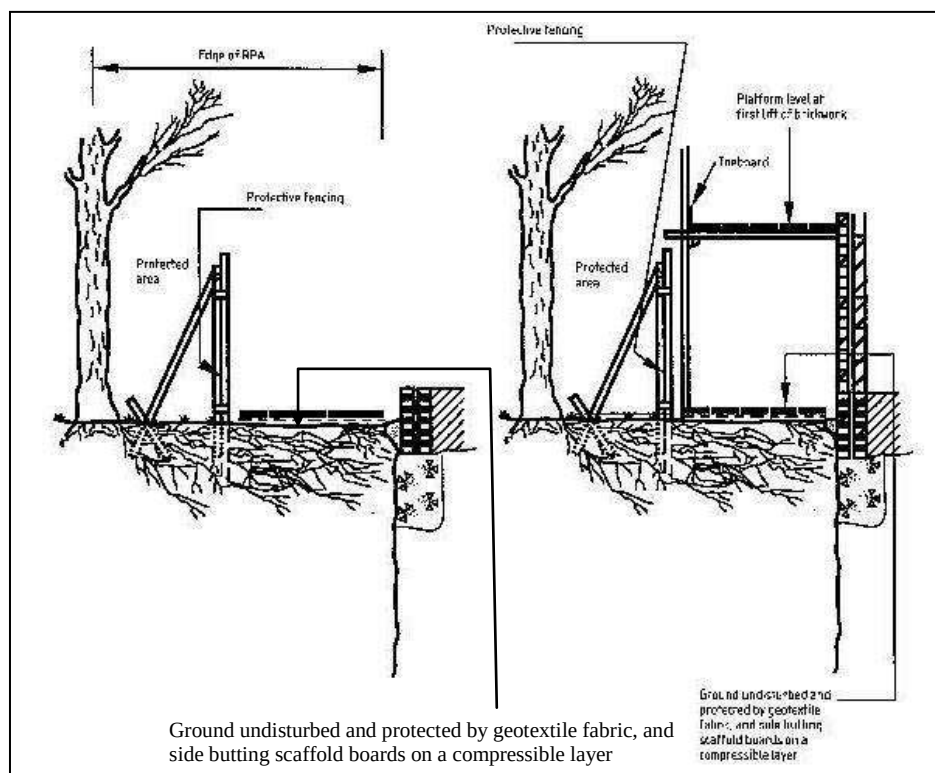


APPENDIX 2

Protective Fencing

Where ground protection measures are necessary they can be provided by laying a geotextile mat onto the existing ground level and adding to this compressible materials, such as bark mulch or sharp sand to form a safe, level surface. Onto this surface is laid scaffold boards which become the working surface for the duration of the construction phase.

Where scaffolding is proposed above the area requiring protection the footway can be suspended above ground level using the upright scaffold poles onto which horizontal supports can be attached and then boards used to form the footway surface. A geotextile mat should be laid on the ground beneath to prevent contamination from materials dropped through the footway.



 HELEN BROWN TREESCAPING	
Plan HB1	
Tree Constraints Plan	
Proposed development at St Thomas a Becket, Warblington	Report Ref: HBD21071A
Approximate location of trees with tree schedule numbering and tree protection	
Key	
	Location of trees
	Extent of BS 5837 root protection areas
	Location of hedges
	Location of trees to be removed/already removed
	Heras fencing
Helen Brown Treescaping 3 Hockley Cottages, Teyford, WINCHESTER SO21 1PJ Mobile 07802 000019 Email: helen.brown@hbtreescaping.com	

Existing Cupressus x Leylandii (T1-T3 inclusive) to be replaced using native hedge mix
 Hazel 15%, Blackthorn 30%, Crabapple 5%, Hawthorn 30%, Field Maple 10%, Dog Rose 10%

Supply and install new 'Cube Septic' tank (1m x 1m x 1.2m), buried below ground level, with only the manhole visible. To be installed all to manufacturers specifications. To be connected to watch hut using 100mm dia pipework laid at a fall of 1:80. Outfall to land drain

Existing oil tank

Existing Watch Hut

Tree removed

Tree removed

Tree to be removed

Supply and install 450x450x50mm pressed concrete paving slabs to be loose laid in a 1:4 mix of sharp sand to cement. To support 1800 x 3000mm timber shed. (Tiger Value Overlap Apex by Tiger Sheds)

Footpath within root protection area must be hand dug to no deeper than 100mm. Stone flag surface will be individually bedded on thick sand and cement bedding mix over a well compacted sub base of scalpings and teram lining. To be flush with surrounding grass

G1

Existing planting retained

Note: Check capacity of oil tank. Dimensions shown are based on a bunded tank up to or equal to 3500 litres

PROPOSED SITE PLAN 1:100

Revisions:

P1: December 2020: Native hedge mix added

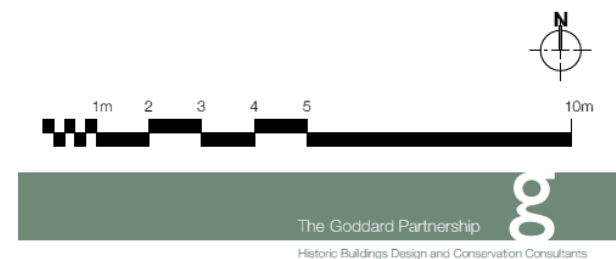
P2: 14th December 2020: Septic tank changed to 'Cube Tank' and shed enlarged

P3: 21.1.21: Shed position adjusted to reduce visual impact

DO NOT SCALE FROM THIS DRAWING.
 Scaling only for Local Authority purposes. Dimensions to be checked on site. All dimensions are in millimetres unless stated. Report all discrepancies.

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Client St Thomas a Becket, Warblington

Project Provision of a new WC

Drawing Proposed Site Plan

Scale 1:100 @ A3

Date September 2017

Drawing No. 927 / 150 **Revision** P3